

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

No new matter is being added by virtue of the amendment to the claims.

In the previous final office action, claims 1-4 7, 8, and 11-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over the newly-cited McKenney patent (U.S. Pat. No. 6,779,090 B2). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

McKenney is directed to a system where a computational agent sets a spin flag if the computational agent is not able to set a lock flag, and the computational agent can access the critical section if it can set the lock flag. When the computational unit has set the spin flag, since it could not set the lock flag, the computation unit will spin until the spin flag is rest by another computation agent that is releasing a lock. McKenney does not disclose and does not suggest the use of a turn flag and the use of a first In flag and a second In flag in a manner as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, McKenney does not disclose and does not suggest the step of, if the first entity will attempt to access the critical section and if the first entity has the turn to access the critical section of the shared memory, then changing, by the first entity, a value in the turn flag from the first value to the second value so that the second entity will have the turn to access the critical section of the shared memory, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, McKenney does not disclose various features that are recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over McKenney.

Independent claims 8, 12, and 13 are also being to recite features that are not disclosed by McKenney.

Accordingly, claims 8, 12, and 13 are each patentable over McKenney.

Various claims depend from claims 1, 8, 12, and 13, and are each patentable over McKenney or are each patentable over the McKenney-Wunderlich combination for at least the same reasons that their respective base claim is patentable over the previously cited references, whether the previously cited references are considered singly or in combination.

Furthermore, each of the dependent claims distinguishes over the previously cited reference by reciting additional features in combination with the features recited in their respective base claims. Accordingly, each of the dependent claims are patentable over the previously cited references.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in the previous final office action.

Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in the cited reference that is relevant to the allowability of the claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically point out where such teachings may be found.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If the Examiner has any questions or needs any additional information, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (805) 681-5078.

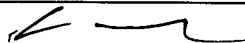
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Respectfully submitted,  
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